

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

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September 8, 1986

From: The Secretariat

Letter from the Chairman of the
WARDA Governing Council

Attached is a copy of a letter dated August 25 sent to the Chairman of the CGIAR by the Chairman of the WARDA Governing Council reporting on the decisions of the special meeting of the council on August 11 and 12, 1986 and requesting further assistance from the CGIAR.

This letter and its attachments will be considered at the meeting of WARDA donors in Paris on September 15, and at international centers week November 3-7, 1986. Mr. Husain will respond following the decisions of the Group at ICW.

The substance of the letter and the attached report are consistent with the report of the meeting sent by the secretariat to all members of the Group on August 16.

The letter is provided in both the original French and in English translation. The attached documents are provided in English. Those wishing copies in French may request them direct from WARDA in Monrovia. The resolutions passed by the Governing Council have already been distributed as Annex "D" to our circular of August 18.

AttachmentsDistribution:

CG Members
Center Board Chairmen
Center Directors
TAC Chairman
TAC Secretariat
TAC Members

MMB/zm

REPUBLIQUE DU SENEGAL
UN PEUPLE - UN BUT - UNE FOI

006072 /M.D.R./CT/R

MINISTERE
DU DEVELOPPEMENT RURAL

Dakar, le 25 Août 1986

Mr. G. G. G.

Le Ministre

Président du Conseil d'Administration
de l'ADRAO

A

Monsieur Shahid HUSAIN
Président du C.G.I.A.R.
Banque Mondiale

1818 H Street, N-W
Washington - DC - 20433 - USA

Monsieur le Président,

Le Conseil d'Administration de l'ADRAO s'est réuni en session extraordinaire à Dakar (SENEGAL) les 11 et 12 Août 1986. Cette réunion avait à discuter, entre autres points, des propositions de la mission de négociation CGRAI/CRDI pour l'avenir de la recherche rizicole en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Ce rapport a été élaboré et présenté par M. Moïse C. MENSAH, dépêché auprès du Conseil d'Administration et des pays membres de l'ADRAO pour discuter des questions relatives à l'Association et qui constituent une préoccupation pour le CGIAR.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint, le rapport adopté par le Conseil d'Administration et où vous trouverez les décisions prises sur la Direction et la structure de l'ADRAO. En particulier, vous noterez qu'une décision a été prise portant transformation du Comité Scientifique et Technique en un Conseil d'Administration doté de pouvoirs identiques à ceux des Conseils d'administrations des autres centres internationaux de recherche agricole (CIRA) financés

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par le GCRAI. Les membres de ce Conseil d'Administration qui sont nommés à nombre égal par le Conseil des Ministres et le GCRAI sont sélectionnés uniquement sur la base de leur compétence sans tenir compte de considérations politiques quelles qu'elles soient.

Enfin, le Secrétaire Exécutif est nommé par le Conseil des Ministres après que le Conseil d'Administration ait dégagé les critères de sélection et proposé la nomination du candidat par le Conseil des Ministres.

Ces décisions que voilà, constituent une profonde transformation de notre Association, dont la structure et la direction deviennent désormais très similaires à celles des autres CIRAs du système du GCRAI, tout en maintenant le caractère intergouvernemental et régional de l'Organisation.

Vous conviendrez avec moi que ces importantes décisions constituent une base saine pour la gestion et la supervision de activités de recherche actuellement entreprises par l'ADRAO.

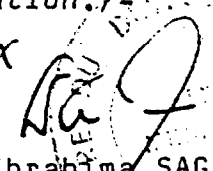
Je voudrais vous informer qu'au cours de cette session extraordinaire, le Conseil d'Administration a décidé d'amender certains chapitres des textes fondamentaux afin d'apporter un fondement juridique à ces transformations.

Le haut niveau des délégations présentes à cette réunion ainsi que la parfaite unanimité sur toutes les décisions prises sont une manifestation évidente de l'intérêt que les Etats membres portent à l'ADRAO et à son devenir. Le Conseil est déterminé à n'épargner aucun effort en vue d'amener les Etats membres à s'acquiescer de leurs obligations financières vis-à-vis de l'Association. C'est ainsi que le Conseil m'a demandé de visiter les pays membres pour m'entretenir avec les Chefs d'Etat et les Ministres des finances pour assurer le paiement rapide des contributions en application de la Résolution d'ABUJA. Le Conseil a également décidé que des sanctions doivent être appliquées aux pays qui ne paient pas leurs contributions.

Je suis convaincu qu'il importerait de porter officiellement ces décisions à la connaissance des agences donatrices membres du GCRAI lors de la prochaine réunion de Novembre. En outre, je vous serais extrêmement reconnaissant de bien vouloir leur proposer de continuer à apporter leur assistance aux programmes de l'ADRAO. En effet, l'assistance de ces agences donatrices est essentielle pour la viabilité de l'Association en tant qu'institution de coopération régionale, tout particulièrement en ce moment même où il est reconnu et admis partout dans le monde, que la priorité des priorités doit être accordée aux efforts d'accroissement de la production alimentaire en Afrique.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de ma très haute considération.

Avec très cordialement, cordiaux


Famara Ibrahima SAGNA
Président du Conseil d'Administration de l'ADRAO *
Ministre du Développement rural
de la République du Sénégal

E-195/87 September 2, 1986
French
CGIAR Secretariat
JCB:bas

Mr. Chairman:

The Governing Council of WARDA held a special meeting in Dakar, Senegal on August 11 and 12, 1986. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss, inter alia, the proposals of the CGIAR/IDRC negotiation mission on the future of rice research in Western Africa.

This report was prepared and presented by Mr. Moïse Mensah, entrusted with discussing with the WARDA Governing Council and Member States those Association-related issues that represent a cause of concern for CGIAR.

I have the honor to send herewith the report adopted by the Board of Directors, in which you will find the decisions taken on WARDA'S management and structure. In particular, you will note that a decision has been taken to change the Scientific and Technical Committee into a Board of Trustees vested with powers identical to those of the Boards of Trustees of the other International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) financed by CGIAR. The members of the Board of Trustees, appointed in equal number by the Council of Ministers and CGIAR, are selected solely on the basis of competence without taking account of any political considerations whatsoever. Lastly, the Executive Secretary is appointed by the Council of Ministers after the Board of Trustees has released the selection criteria and proposed nomination of the candidate by the Council of Ministers.

These decisions represent a radical transformation of our Association, whose structure and management will henceforth be very similar to those of the other IARCs in the CGIAR system, while maintaining the organization's intergovernmental and regional character.

You will agree with me that these important decisions represent a sound basis for execution and supervision of the research activities currently undertaken by WARDA.

I would mention that during this special meeting the Governing Council decided to amend certain chapters of the basic texts so as to provide a legal foundation for the changes.

The fact that such high-level delegations were present at the meeting and that all decisions were reached by complete unanimity is evidence of the interest taken by the member States in WARDA and in its future. The Council is determined to spare no effort in getting the member States to discharge their financial obligations vis-à-vis the Association. Thus the Council has asked me to travel to the member countries to visit with the Chiefs of State and Finance Ministers to ensure the rapid payment of contributions, pursuant to the Abuja Resolution. The Council has also decided that penalties shall be imposed on countries failing to pay their contributions.

I am convinced that it will be essential to bring these decisions officially to the notice of the CGIAR donor agencies at the upcoming meeting in November.

Moreover, I should be extremely grateful if you would ask them to continue to provide assistance for WARDA programs. Assistance from these donor agencies is essential for the viability of the Association as a regional

cooperation institution, in particular at the present time, when it is recognized and acknowledged throughout the world that top priority must be accorded to efforts to step up food production in Africa.

Kindly accept, Mr. Chairman, the assurances of my highest consideration. Minister Famara I. Sagna.



WEST AFRICA RICE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DE
LA RICECULTURE EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

**FIFTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE
GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**6-12 August 1986
Dakar, Senegal**

**(Governing Council, STC Executive Committee
and National Experts Committee)**

PROVISIONAL REPORT OF THE MEETING

WARDA/86/GC-E-5/20

WEST AFRICA RICE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (WARDA)

FIFTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE
GOVERNING COUNCIL

11-12 August 1986
Dakar, Senegal.

PROVISIONAL REPORT

OPENING CEREMONY

1. In his opening address, the Chairman of the Governing Council, Honourable Famara Ibrahima Sagna, Minister of Rural Development of the Republic of Senegal, first of all welcomed all the delegates to Senegal on behalf of His Excellency, Mr. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, and his Government.
2. Hon. Sagna recalled that WARDA was established in 1970 as a manifestation of the collective will of its Founding Fathers to pool their resources in order to better meet the food needs of their peoples. Today, however, the Association is in an unprecedented financial crisis that is likely to destroy the Organization.
3. The Chairman of the Governing Council drew attention to the fact that WARDA is just as needed today as it was 16 years ago because while the West African sub-region imported 1.9 million tonnes of rice in 1970, this figure has shot up to 3.5 million tonnes today, representing an increase of 84.2% notwithstanding the laudable efforts made to increase rice production.
4. Hon. Sagna pointed out that as a privileged tool for

scientific and technical cooperation in rice development, WARDA needs the full support of its member states to stem the rising tide of paralysis resulting from its severe financial crisis. He then appealed to all the member states to settle their arrears of contributions and to take advantage of the offer made by the World Bank and UNDP for member states to use part of their development loan funds to settle their contributions to WARDA.

5. The Chairman of the Governing Council informed the delegates that President Abdou Diouf of Senegal was concerned about the crisis situation of WARDA and had therefore decided to send him to attend the WARDA Donors' meeting in Ottawa (Canada) last May to represent WARDA member states. He stated that some of the donors were contemplating on withdrawing from WARDA because they interpreted the non-payment by member states of their contributions as a lack of interest in the Organization. He therefore urged all member states to join hands together to save WARDA from collapse.

.. Lastly, the Hon. Sagna said President Abdou Diouf had put WARDA on the agenda of the recent meeting of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS held in Abuja, Nigeria, and the Summit meeting adopted a Resolution reaffirming continued support for WARDA. He therefore expressed the hope that the delegates would take adequate measures to chart the future course of WARDA and to put the Association on a sound footing to enhance its operational efficiency.

7. The Chairman of the Governing Council then expressed, sincere thanks to WARDA donors for their unfailing assistance and hoped that they would not relent in providing much needed support to the Association.

STATEMENT BY MR. JOSEPH HULSE
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE (IDRC)

8. After making his opening address, the Chairman of the Governing Council called on the Vice President of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, Mr. Joseph Hulse, to take the floor.

9. In his statement, Mr. Hulse said that he was attending the meeting not as a representative of IDRC but rather of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Mr. Hulse lauded the contribution of the CGIAR to WARDA over the years and stated that WARDA is one of the outstanding members within the CGIAR family.

10. With regard to IDRC - WARDA relations, Mr. Hulse informed the Governing Council that since IDRC was one of the institutions that encouraged WARDA to become a member of the CGIAR family, it was normal that IDRC should be concerned about WARDA's growth and development. He stated that notwithstanding the temporary problems besetting WARDA, he was convinced that member states and the CGIAR would work out a pattern of cooperation that would enable the Association to ride out its present difficulties.

11. Mr. Hulse took the opportunity to thank Mr. Moise C. Mensah, Assistant President of IFAD, for graciously accepting to undertake, on behalf of IDRC as the executing agency for CGIAR, the CGIAR Negotiating Mission for the future of Rice Research in West Africa.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was adopted without amendments.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA ITEMS

12. The Council decided to base its discussion of the agenda item on the report and recommendations of the Committee of National Experts. Accordingly, the Rapporteur of the Committee presented the Report to Council Agenda item 3.

13. The Council took note of the following reports which were submitted to it for information :

- (a) the TAC Mid-Term Review of WARDA
(Document: WARDA/86/GC-E-5/2);
- (b) the Report on the CGIAR Discussions on WARDA, Ottawa
May 1986 (Document: WARDA/86/GC-E-5/3);
- (c) Report of the Heads of States Meeting on WARDA
Abuja, Nigeria, July 1986 (Document: WARDA/86/GC-E-5/6).

14. To enable it to have additional information that might help in its discussion of the proposal of the CGIAR/IDRC Negotiating Mission, the Council invited Mr. Joseph Hulse, Vice President, IDRC, to make a statement on behalf of CGIAR.

15. Mr. Hulse expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the meeting. He pointed out that members of the CGIAR are anxious about the financial stability of WARDA and urge member states to pay their contribution as soon as their economies permit.

16. He reminded the meeting of the offer made by the World Bank, UNDP and the Dutch Government to assist member countries pay their outstanding and current contribution. He pointed out that the success of the International Agricultural Research Centres depended on (1) financial stability; and (2) high standard of excellence in

management and execution of research programmes and that this success requires excellence from the Director General and Board of Trustees of the Centres.

Commenting on the Report, he said that :

- (1) the Board of Trustees of WARDA should be independent like the Board of Trustees of the other International Agricultural Research Centres (IARCs) ;
- (2) the Executive Secretary of WARDA should be a scientific man of the highest standing; if West African scientists are not available or cannot accept the position, scientists from other regions should be considered for it;
- (3) WARDA has operated under difficult conditions and that if the Governing Council adopts the Mensah Report WARDA will operate in a way that will enhance its chances of achieving its objectives.

17. The Council decided to go into closed session to enable delegates to have a frank exchange of views on the various recommendations made in the Report.

18. At the end of their discussions, the Council adopted the attached Resolutions.

Financial Situation of WAFSA

19. The Council expressed serious concern about the deteriorating financial situation of the Association. It accepted the proposals submitted to it by the Committee of National Experts. It decided that member countries be requested to pay at least \$2.9 million by the end of this year, the balance due should be paid over a five year period in equal annual instalments.

20. The Council mandated its Chairman to visit the member countries to appeal to Heads of States and Ministers of Finance to ensure early payment of contributions in compliance with the Abuja Resolution.

Adoption of 1986 Supplementary Budget and 1987 Administrative Budget

21. The Council approved the recommendations of the Committee of National Experts on a supplementary budget for 1986 and approved the Administrative Budget for 1987 at the level of \$2,044,400. The situation will be reviewed at the December 1986 Session of the Council in the light of the decisions to be made by the CGIAR in November 1986 on future funding of WAFSA.

Election of the Executive Secretary

22. The Council decided that the STC should set in motion procedures for the selection and nomination of the Executive Secretary and that the term of office of the Deputy Executive Secretary who is currently acting as Executive Secretary be extended to December 1987.

Consideration of the Report of the External Auditor

23. The Council accepted the report of the External Auditor and asked the Executive Secretariat to take necessary measures to compile a Fixed Assets Register.

Appointment of External Auditors

24. The Council accepted the recommendations of the STC and the National Experts Committee to appoint Akintola Williams and Co. to audit the 1986 and 1987 accounts of the Association.

Any Other Business

25. (a) Headquarters issues

The Council mandated its Chairman to visit Liberia to discuss with the Liberian Authorities the various issues raised in the Secretariat reports, with a view to finding solutions to them. The Chairman will report to Council at its next Session on the solutions found to the problems and their implementation.

(b) Staff Laisser-Passer

The Council decided to allow the Secretariat to re-introduce the Laisser-Passer and issue them to staff members.

- 8 -

(c) The Review of the Scale of Contributions

The Council accepted the recommendations of the National Experts Committee that penalties be applied against defaulting members and that no new assessments be made for payments into the Special Fund until such time as the future of the Special Fund is reviewed. The Council decided that the formula for computing member state contributions should from 1987 be based on 50% of the Administrative Budget being divided equally among member countries and the remaining 50% apportioned among member countries in accordance with the UN scale of contributions.

(d) Request by Mauritania to freeze its membership of WARDA

The Council mandated its Chairman to approach the Mauritanian Authorities with a view to persuading them to remain active member of WARDA in the spirit of West Africa solidarity.

(e) Liaison between Member State Governments and the Executive Secretariat

The Council accepted the recommendation to request member countries to designate an office in charge of WARDA matters at the national level so as to facilitate communication with the Secretariat.

Date and Venue of the next meeting

26 The Council decided to hold its next ordinary session in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, during the first half of December 1986.